

# Bitter Eden



## BITTER EDEN TATAMKHULU AFRIKA

'An elegantly crafted work, *Bitter Eden* is an astonishing story about men in close quarters forging relationships that border on trust and betrayal – and how love, in war, is an ambivalent bond'  
*Independent*

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著者:Afrika, Tatamkhulu

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This frank and beautifully written novel draws heavily on the author's World War II experiences as a captive in North Africa and a prisoner of war in Italy and Germany. Three men who see themselves as "straight" must negotiate the emotions that are brought to the surface by the physical closeness of survival in the male-only camps. The complex rituals of camp life and the strange loyalties and deep bonds between the men are compellingly depicted in this tender, bitter, powerful tale of lives inexorably changed and a war whose ending does not bring peace.

作者介绍:

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## 标签

英文原版

爱情

战争

同性

二战

## 评论

战争的疮痍，集中营的压抑，精神和肉体的饥荒，以及悬在每个人头上的死亡都仿佛像是千吨的铅块要压碎人的每一块血肉和骨骼，但就是因为仅存的希望，和微妙的情愫，囚禁在此处的人也能将这人间炼狱转化为伊甸园，尽管它一如书名，浸透苦涩。Douglas因爱生妒，陨灭于一颗子弹和自己的癫狂；Tony对戏院这一集中营唯一的艺术救赎的执着构成了一个重要的象征和隐喻；Tom和Danny从严冬的冻土中所萌生的坚韧的感情，以及战后的重逢，希望还有无尽的遗憾，连同着战争所带来的碎裂的神经与碎肉，穿脑的子弹和贫瘠凸起的肋骨，精准而冷峻地呈现在了作者的这部半自传式小说之中。

作者饱浸英国文风的优美长句与譬喻，即便是在半个世纪后，依然将那战俘营的绝望与希望，男人间的爱妒，和面对爱的热望，犹疑和遗憾，描述得历历在目。

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书评

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